

### **REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the above identified application is respectfully requested.

In the Office action dated May 5, 2005, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,652,050 to Lin (hereinafter "Lin") in view of US 2004/0239218 to Jurja (hereinafter "Jurja"). Claims 2-4 are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all claim limitations. The Examiner is thanked for pointing out the allowable matters.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In addition, Applicant has rewritten claims 2 and 4 in independent forms incorporating all limitations of claim 1. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicant also acknowledge safe receipt of the "Notice of References Cited" (form PTO-892).

Applicants respectfully submit the amendments and additions of claims have overcome the objection and rejections for reasons set forth below:

#### ***Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)***

Claim 1 is rejected as being unpatentable over Lin in view of Jurja.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as the present application relates to a rail assembly for furniture that has a very different structure from the cited references.

To anticipate a claim, each and every element of the claim must be taught, either expressly or inherently, in a single prior art reference. See e.g., *Verdegaal Bros. v. union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987) ("a claim is anticipated only if each and every

element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference”).

The present invention has a stationary track, an internal track, a sliding frame, a latch bracket and a resilient latch. The stationary track is mounted inside a drawer. The internal track is movably mounted on the stationary track. The sliding frame is also movably mounted on the internal track. The latch bracket is mounted inside the stationary track. The resilient latch is mounted slidably on the latch bracket. The latch bracket has two rails and a buffer mounted at the inner end of the latch bracket. The latch bracket also has a body having a cavity and a through hole. The buffer mounted inside the cavity is to absorb the closing energy. The resilient latch has a spring bracket with two notches at the middle portion of the rear surface of the latch. The resilient latch further has two springs mounted between the latch and the body of the latch bracket for pulling the resilient latch back, so that the drawer with the rail assembly will close automatically.

In contrast, Lin discloses a drawer sliding device having an outer sliding member 10, a middle sliding member 20 and an inner sliding member 30. A fastening seat 40 is mounted on the outer sliding member 10. “A tension spring 60 is disposed in the fringe of the fastening seat 40 such that two ends 61 of the tension spring are fastened with the columnar fastening portions 52 of the fast return element 50.” (column 3, lines 28-31). As pointed out by the Examiner, Lin does not disclose the cavity and the through hole in the body of the latch bracket. Contrary to the Examiner’s allegation, Lin does not disclose a latch bracket that has a buffer for reducing the elastic force from the latch. Lin does not teach or suggest the claimed invention’s two springs mounted between the latch and the latch bracket because Lin has one tension spring 60 fastened

to the two fastening portions of the element 50. Furthermore, Lin does not teach or suggest a spring bracket with two notches for mounting the two springs.

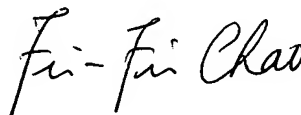
With respect to Jurja, it discloses a telescoping self-closing mechanism having an outer channel, a middle channel and an inner channel. The outer channel has a floater slidably mounted on the outer channel and a spring for exerting a force on the floater. The spring is used to draw the floater along with the inner section and the middle section to a fully closed position. The primary objective in Jurja is to provide a rail assembly not limited by the depth of the drawer. Jurja does not teach or suggest a buffer to absorb the closing energy. Furthermore, Jurja does not teach or suggest the two springs and the spring bracket with two notches of the claimed invention.

Thus, Lin in view of Jurja does not render claim 1 obvious. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection has been overcome.

In view of the foregoing, the rejections have been overcome and the claims are in condition for allowance, early notice of which is requested. Should the application not be passed for issuance, the examiner is requested to contact the applicant's attorney to resolve the problem.

Respectfully submitted,

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